last three years in the Organised Sector has been as under :

1993-94	-	47.02 Tonnes
1994-95	-	49.40 Tonnes.
1995-96	-	83.93 Tonnes

(b) The Working Group on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals for the Ninth Five Year Plan period has estimated demand to be as follows

1996-97	-	275 MT
1997-98	-	303 MT
1998-99	-	333 MT
1999-2000	-	366 MT
2000-01	-	403 MT
2001-02	-	443 MT

(c) Pyrazinamide is under OGL as per the Export and Import Policy. Shortfall if any can be met through imports. However, imports have been negligible and almost the entire demand of this drug is met through indigenous production.

(d) to (f) As per the earlier DPCO the last notified price of Pyrazinamide was Rs. 1679/- per Kg vide notification dated 25.11.93. As per DPCO, 1995 it is outside the purview of price control. Also this drug is delicensed, vide Press Note No. 4 (1994 series) dated 25.10.94 consequent to announcement of "Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986" in September, 1994.

Inclusion of more Castes in OBCs

*275. SHRI A.C. JOS
SHRI DATTA MEGHE

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Cabinet has taken any decision to appoint another Commission for examining the claims of some communities for inclusion in the OBCs list;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a Commission would be set up to consider the requests of other communities for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Mangrove Forests

*276. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the area covered under the mangrove forests in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have prepared any action plan for the protection and improvement of the mangrove forests in the country;

(c) if so, the salient features thereof;

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to protect and improve the mangrove forests; and

(e) the funds allocated to the States for the purpose during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) As per the State of Forest Report (1995), mangroves cover an area of 4,533 sq. kms. in the country. The State-wise break-up of mangrove areas is given in Statement-I.

(b) to (d) A centrally sponsored scheme on Conservation and Management of Mangroves was initiated during 1985-86 and is being continued during VIII Five Year Plan. A national Committee on Wetlands, Mangroves and Coral Reefs advises the Government on policy guidelines, identification of mangroves for intensive conservation, monitoring, preparation of management action plans and for research activities. Under the scheme, 15 mangrove areas have been selected on priority basis for intensive conservation and management purposes. Management action plans have been drawn up for the identified mangrove areas. The activities under the management action plan include survey and demarcation, natural regeneration, afforestation, nursery development, protection measures, education and awareness.

The network of Protected Areas consisting of national parks, sancturies and biosphere reserves also includes mangroves within their boundaries depending upon the location.

(e) A Statement showing funds provided to the State Governments during last three years under the centrally sponsored scheme on Conservation and management of Mangroves, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries, Project tiger and Biosphere Reserves is given in Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

State-wise break-up of Mangrove areas as per the State of Forest Report, 1995

		Area (in sq. km.)
1	Andhra Pradesh	383
2	Goa	3
3	Gujarat	689
4	Maharashtra	155
5	Orissa	195
6	Tamilnadu	21
7	West Bengal	2119
8	Andaman and Nicobar	966
9	Karnataka	2
		4533

STATEMENT-II

Funds Released to the States during Last Three Years

(in lakhs)

S.No.	State	Mangrove area	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	West Bengal	Sunderbans	140.94	0.50	106.95
2	Karnataka	Coondapur	17.58	-	20.00
3	Gujarat	Gulf of Kutch	3.33	5.60	13.85
4	Goa	Goa	4.80	9.55	5.80
5	Tamilnadu	Pichavaram	-	2.44	4.50
		Muthupet	57.24	17.75	18.23
6	Maharashtra	Achra/Ratnagiri	1.59	-	-
7	Andaman and Nicobar	Great Nicobar	11.30	25.00	31.57
8	Orissa	Bhitarkanika	15.94	17.00	-
9	Andhra Pradesh	Coringa	6.74	2.61	-
			259.46	80.45	200.90

Sugar Export

*277 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has recently been allowed to export sugar;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the likely effect thereof on the price of sugar in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The STC has been allotted an export quota of 1 lakh ton in October, 1996 for the current season. These exports are unlikely to have any adverse impact on the sugar prices in view of the comfortable stock position in the country.

Wakf Act, 1995

*278 SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wakf Act, 1995 has come into force;

(b) if so, the States in which the State Wakf Boards have been constituted under the Act;

(c) whether the Wakf Boards have experienced any difficulty in transferring the pending civil suites relating to the Wakf properties to the Tribunals;

(d) if so, the remedial action taken in this regard;

(e) the States where the surveys of Wakf properties have been conducted;

(f) if so, the details of these surveys; and

(g) whether the Government have also asked the State Governments to vacate the Wakf properties under occupation by the official or semi-official agencies or pay the market rent therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Wakf Act, 1995 has been enforced in the country except in the State of Jammu and Kashmir with effect from 01.01.1996.

(b) According to the information received from the State Governments, State Wakf Boards have been constituted in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya and West Bengal under the Wakf Act, 1995.

(c) and (d) Neither any State Government nor any Wakf Board has intimated about the difficulty experienced by them.

(e) and (f) Survey of Wakf properties were conducted by most of the State Governments under the Wakf Act, 1954. Information regarding such surveys under Wakf Act, 1995, is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the table of the House.

(g) Yes, Sir. In 1976, the then Prime Minister had addressed the Chief Ministers of selected States and the Lt. Governor of Delhi to either vacate the Wakf properties under adverse occupation of State Government Departments or Local Bodies or pay fair market value of the lands to the Jakf Boards or to enter into permanent leases with the Wakf Boards.

Loan to Sugar Mills

*279 SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incentives/financial assistance being provided by the Union Government to sugar mills for setting up modern machines/equipments;